राशि का अभ्यर्पण मुख्यत: कम्प्यूटर प्रणाली में व्यवधान की वजह से बिलों पर कार्रवाई करने में विलंब के कारण किया गया है ।

Telecast of Punjabi News from Jalandhar Doordarshan

819. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to State:

(a) whether it is a fact that Punjab Government have recently urged the Central Government to increase tne duration of time of telecast of Punjabi News from Jalandhar Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A request has been received from the Punjab Government for increase in the duration of the Punjabi News bulletin telecast from Jalandhar Kendra.

(c) Doordarshan Kendra, Jalandhar is already telecasting two news bulletins in Punjabi daily. The present duration of these bulletins is considered adequate.

Proposals for improving programmes on Welfare Schemes

820. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the celluloid media is an effective one, if so, what steps are being taken by Government to utilise the wide network of Telecast media for propagating the welfare schemes of Government to the masses; and

(b) what proposals Government have to improve Governmental or official programmes to make it more attractive and impressive?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) Doordarshan has been telecasting programmes, in different Indian languages, from various Kendras on the Welfare schemes of the Government in an attractive and effective manner regularly and would continue to do so in tne future also.

821. (*Transferred to the 21st July, 1992*).

High Power Committee on the Prasar Bharati Act

822. SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a high power committee headed by Additional Secretary has been studying the Prasar Bharati Act in order to make it foolproof;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has completed its study; and

(c) if so, the recommendations made and Government's decision thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) No Committee is at present engaged on this specific subject.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Handing over Second National Network Channel to Multinational Firms etc.

823. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several leading multinational firms, NRIs and a host of established Indian private sector firms are vying for the proposed Rs. 3000 crore second national network channel of Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether Government have since decided to handover the second channel of Doordarshan in the private hands; and

(d) if so, by when it is to be implemented and what would be the check of the Government thereafter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) While Government have not invited any proposal in this regard a number of parties have evinced interest in the matter.

(c) and (d) The Government have decided to allot time slots to private producers on the four metro channels of Doordarshan. The quality of the programmes and adherance to the conditions of the licence etc. would be monitored by the Broadcasting Council envisaged in the said scheme.

Changes in the Industrial Disputes Act and Trade Union Act

824. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make changes in the Industrial Disputes Act and the Trade Union Act;

(b) if so, the salient features of the changes; and

(c) whether the discussions have been held with the representatives of the Trade Unions regarding the proposed changes?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) to (c) In pursuance of the recommendation of the Indian Labour Conference held in April 1990, a bipartite committee comprising representatives of Central Trade Union Organisations and Employees Organisations was constituted under the chairmanship of Shri G. Ramanujam in May 1990. The terms of reference of the Committee were "to formulate specific proposals" for the New Industrial Relations Bill. The Committee submitted its report in October 1990. The Report of the Committee is not entirely unanimous. It was considered in the 40th Labour Ministers Conference held in February, 1992. There was a consensus in the conference that the recommendations of the Committee which were unanimous may be accepted and a Committee of five State Labour Ministers may be constituted to examine the areas of disagreement with a view to arriving at a consensus. Consequently, a Committee consisting of the Labour Ministers of U.P., West Bengal, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu under the chairmanship of the Minister of State for Coal and Labour has been constituted. The Committee met on 25th April and 1st June 1992 and again likely to meet shortly to finalise its recommendations.

Loss due to Industrial Strike

825. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what was the loss in terms of Man-hours, due to the industrial strike on 16th June, 1992;

(b) what has been the loss, in terms of Man-hours, due to strikes in the years 1991-92, 1990-91 and 1989-90;

(c) in which State the Man-hours lost due to strikes are the highest; and

(d) in what manner Government propose to adjust this loss?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) to (d) Data on loss due to strike is compiled calender year-wise in terms of man-days and not man-hours. Information on man-days lost due to strikes during 1990—92 and its State-wise break-up is given in the Statement (*See* below).